

Message Text

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72

ORIGIN AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CU-04 SS-15 NASA-04 SCI-06 CPR-02 SY-10

USIA-12 RSC-01 /073 R

DRAFTED BY AF/C:JHALLDIGGS:LS

7/9/73 EXT 20996

APPROVED BY AF/C:HJCOHEN

CU/AF - MR. O'BRIEN (SUBS)

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R 091841Z JUL 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, MA, US

SUBJ: PROPOSED CHANGES IN FOREIGN MINISTER RATSIRAKA'S
ITINERARY

REF: STATE 123584

1. AMB. RAHARIJAONA COMMENTED TO DEPTOFF DURING RECENT VISIT THAT FONMIN RATSIRAKA HAD WRITTEN TO HIM ABOUT SEEING THE GRAND CANYON WHILE VISITING THE U.S. THE AMB. INQUIRED ALSO ABOUT OPPORTUNITY FOR THE FONMIN TO MEET WITH OTHER COMPANIES THAN CHEVRON IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

2. PRESENT ITINERARY CANNOT ACCOMMODATE FONMIN RATSIRAKA'S WISH TO VISIT THE GRAND CANYON AND TO HAVE OPPORTUNITY FOR WIDER BUSINESS CONTACTS.

3. DEPT WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY VIEWS ON FOLLOWING ALTERNATIVES: ALTERNATIVE ONE WOULD ELIMINATE VISIT LOUISIANA AND SUBSTITUTE HALF-DAY VISIT GRAND CANYON JULY 29 WITH PHOENIX AS ENTRY POINT. THIS CHANGE WOULD GIVE EXTRA DAY (JULY 30) IN LOS ANGELES. ALTERNATIVE TWO WOULD ADD ONE DAY TO END OF ITINERARY WITH DEPARTURE FOR PARIS FROM
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LOS ANGELES ON AUGUST 2. THIS CHANGE WOULD PROVIDE MORE

TIME FOR BUSINESS CONTACTS EITHER IN LOUISIANA OR
CALIFORNIA WITH HALF-DAY VISIT GRAND CANYON.

4. SKYLAB LAUNCHING IS NOW SCHEDULED FOR EARLY MORNING
JULY 28. DEPT. PLANS SIMPLY REVERSE PROGRAM OF JULY 27 AND
28. RUSH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 JUL 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: worrelsw
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE133543
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JHALLDIGGS:LS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730745/aaaabhgg.tel
Line Count: 68
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 STATE 123584
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: worrelsw
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09-Jan-2002 by martinjw>; APPROVED <01 MAR 2002 by worrelsw>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PROPOSED CHANGES IN FOREIGN MINISTER RATSIRAKA'S ITINERARY
TAGS: OEXC, MA, US, (RATSIRAKA)
To: TANANARIVE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005